

Charles - 362
Smith's Chapel(Methodist)
Near Rt. 225
Pisgah,MD

1886, 1910

On a local road off of Rt.225, two miles before you reach the village of Pisgah, is Smith's Chapel. The chapel stands 34' from the east side of the road and faces west. The present structure was built in 1910 and has grown without thought of architectural beauty. Smith's Chapel is one of three small black chapels in the Pisgah Charge. These Chapels (Smith's, Emory and Alexandria) were all founded after the Civil War. Smith's congregation is made up of sharecroppers, field hands and small farmers. The cemetery on the north side of the church contains graves from the 1880's and 90's. The Chapel houses an isolated congregation that continues to survive in rural Charles County.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Smith's Chapel (Methodist)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Near Rt. 225 on Poor House Road

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF Pisgah

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Charles

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☒ STRUCTURE
☒ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
☒ ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☒ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTYNAME Trustees, Smith's Chapel
Rev. Harvey R. Curtis

Telephone #: 753-6553

STREET & NUMBER

Box 121

CITY, TOWN

Indian Head

VICINITY OF

STATE zip code
Md. 20640**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE.
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Charles Co. Court HouseLiber #: GN 5 AND 35
Folio #: 125 121

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

La Plata

Md.

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE na/

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE 1886

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

On a local road off of Rte. 225, two miles before you reach the village of Pisgah is Smith's Chapel. The chapel stands 34 feet from the east side of the road and faces west. The present structure was built in 1910 and has grown without thought of architectural beauty. The old weatherboard chapel is now covered with white asbestos shingles. A cement block addition has been joined to the chapel on the north side. I have included photographs of the present structure.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES 1886-1910

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Smith's Chapel (United Methodist) is one of three small black chapels in the Pisgah Charge. These chapels (Smith's Emory and Alexandria) were all founded after the Civil War. The blacks that made up the congregations of these chapels were once served by the old Pisgah Methodist Church. Smith's congregation is made up of sharecroppers, field hands and small farmers. The cemetery on the north side of the church contains graves from the 1880's and 1890's. Smith's Chapel is an isolated congregation that continues to survive in Charles County.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James W. Clark, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Commission on Afro-American
History and Culture

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

20 Dean Street

TELEPHONE

269-2893

CITY OR TOWN

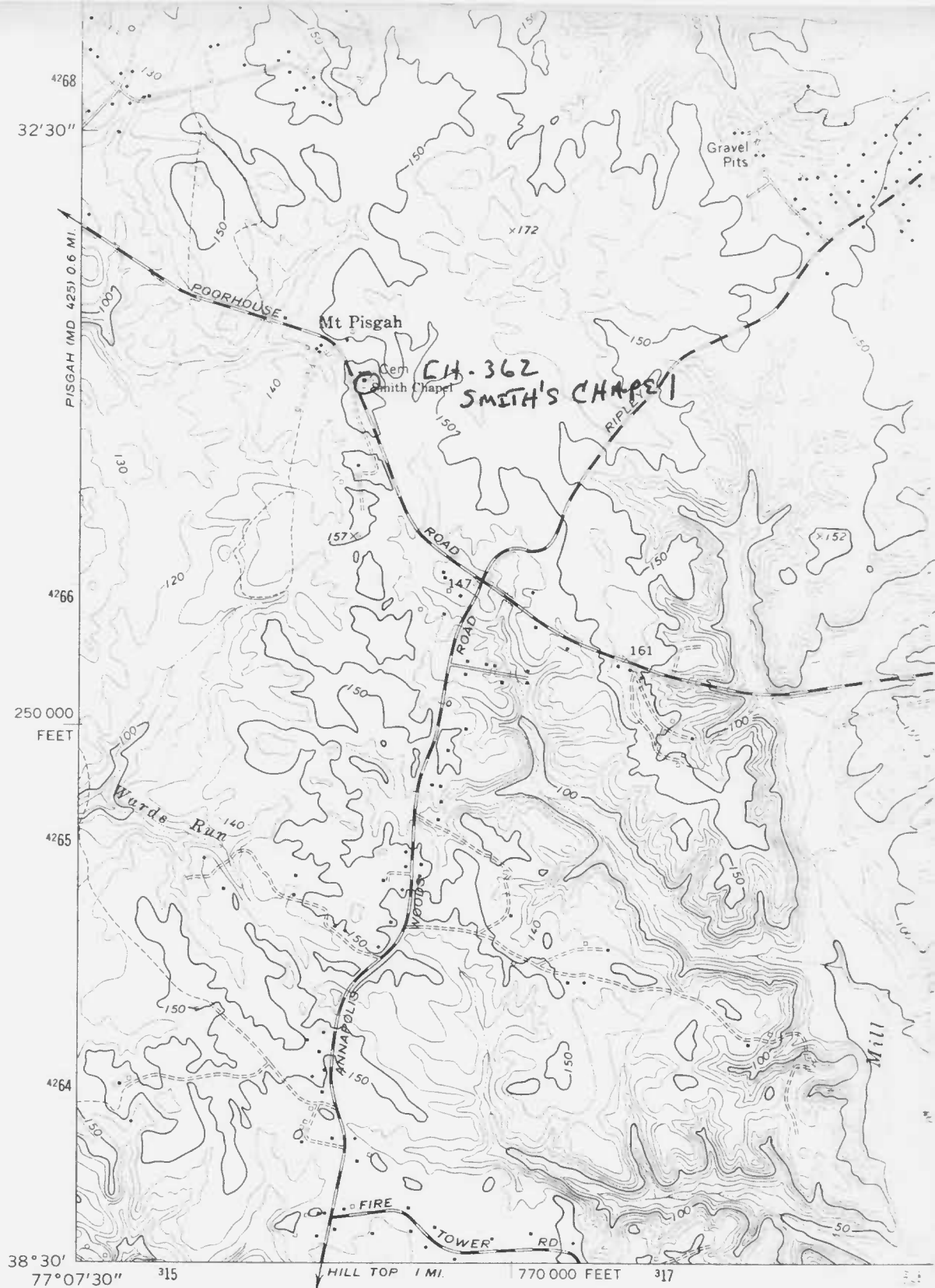
Annapolis, MD

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



(NANJEMOY)
5560 1 NW

Mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1955. Field checked 1956.
Revised by Geological Survey 1966

Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS
Chart 560 (1965). This information is not intended
for navigational purposes

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where

MN
GN

7°
124 MILS 1°17'
23 MILS

UTM GRID AND 1966 MAGNETIC
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



Photograph by
J. MICHAEL HOSFORD

Annapolis, Md. 21401
301 - 263 - 4995

Smith's Chapel (Methodist) CH-362
Near Rt. 225, Pisgah, Charles Co., MD
Michael Hosford

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
Southwest elevation
6/80



Photograph by
J. MICHAEL HOSFORD

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